

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q79826

Tadashi YONEDA

Appln. No.: 10/588,086

Group Art Unit: 1654

Confirmation No.: 4024

Examiner: Julie Ha

Filed: July 31, 2006

For: METHOD FOR STABILIZING OIL-BASED THICKENING GEL COMPOSITION

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the restriction and election of species requirements set forth in the Office Action dated February 19, 2008.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Group II, claims 11-18, for examination. This election is made without traverse.

As to the election of species requirement, Applicant elects the species containing the components described in Example 1, as follows.

Lipopeptide structure: If Applicant must elect a single structure, R is an isoalkyl group having 11 carbon atoms and X is leucine. However, Applicant submits that surfactin, which is derived from microorganisms, exists only as a mixture of several compounds.

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Polyhydric alcohol: water and glycerin

Tocopherol compound: δ -tocopherol

Oil component: polyoxyethylene (20) glyceryl triisostearate and glycerin tri-2-ethylhexanoate

All of the claims are believed to read on the elected species.

Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims is found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373
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Date: March 20, 2008